

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 943

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Kellie Walker upon being named the *Independent Herald*/Scott County Chamber of Commerce 2021 Scott County Person of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Kellie Walker of Scott County, a community leader who was recently named the *Independent Herald*/Scott County Chamber of Commerce 2021 Person of the Year; and

WHEREAS, the executive director of the Children's Center of the Cumberland, Ms. Walker cares deeply and passionately for all she encounters and has long sought to improve the lives of the people of Scott County; and

WHEREAS, despite a series of devastating events, including the passing of her third child and firstborn son, Kip, and a life-threatening cancer diagnosis and subsequent treatments and surgeries, Ms. Walker continues to show up for the Children's Center, her friends, and her community; and

WHEREAS, while grieving the loss of her son, Ms. Walker started Kip's Klost as a way to memorialize and honor him and to solicit donations for the kids of the Children's Center who have been abused and neglected; and

WHEREAS, although she has been in and out of the hospital, Ms. Walker continues to work when she can; she was front and center at Soul Sister's benefit auction for the Children's Center, and when she was in the hospital and unable to attend a previous auction, she made a phone call to ensure food was delivered so the workers would be taken care of; and

WHEREAS, her tenacity while enduring grief and cancer, even simultaneously, is not unique to Ms. Walker; however, the grace with which she has navigated these traumas existed in her prior to her current situation; and

WHEREAS, Kellie Walker has always been the person to show up and drop words of encouragement or a note of inspiration to uplift the people around her and make their lives better; she helps people get through their days and through their lives with love, prayer, and selflessness, and she has not allowed negative circumstances to take away her spirit of compassion; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Walker has done much to improve the lives of her fellow Scott Countians, and it is fitting that she be recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commend and congratulate Kellie Walker upon being named the *Independent Herald*/Scott County Chamber of Commerce 2021 Person of the Year and extend to her our sincere best wishes for much continued success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.